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## ROMA WOMAN, Estefania Ruiz Molina

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**ROMA WOMAN**, by Estefanía Ruiz Molina

Location: Plaza de Cascorro - El Rastro, Madrid, Spain.

This image represents the resilience of my people, the Romani. Throughout our history, we have suffered countless persecutions and inhumane treatment. We have suffered the criminalization of our identity. We have had to leave our homes in order to save our lives; become victims over and over and yet we could not disappear. This image represents the first time a portrayal of a Roma woman was exhibited in a public space, painted in Madrid, Spain. Molina's work challenges stereotypes and tackles Anti-Roma discrimination, sexism, and classism. This piece was exhibited on November 25, a day designated to recognize anti-gender-based violence against women. The piece's message, written in Spanish, translates to "they wanted to bury us, but they did not know that we were seeds..." This message gives voice to silent Roma women whose struggles remain unheard.